(a) the progress so far made in the development of the Haldia-Allahabad national waterways; and

(b) by when vessels are likely to use this national waterways?

THE MINISTER OF TRANSPORT (SHRI BANSI LAL): (a) Three schemes costing Rs. 1,558.10 lakhs have already been sanctioned for the development of Haldia-Allahabad stretch of the Ganga-Bhagirathi-Hooghly river system which has been declared as national waterway. An expenditure of Rs. 68.05 lakhs has been incurred for provision of terminal facilities on the Haldia-Farakka sector and the work is in progress. Inspections of the Farakka-Patna stretch for locating the terminal facilities have recently been carried out by the technical experts and further action is being taken up. A Side Letter for the pilot project in the Patna-Allahabad stretch of the waterway, which is proposed to be implemented with Dutch assistance, has been signed by the two Governments on 4-10-85 and action for its implementation has been initiated.

(b) Vessels are already utilising the Ganga-Bhagirathi-Hooghly national waterways for navigation. A weekly service is being operated by the C. I. W. T. C. Ltd., from Calcutta to Farakka on this National Waterway and this service shall be extended upto Patna as soon as the Navigation Lock at Farakka is operational.

Translation of Bengali titles by the National Book Trust and Sahitya Akademi

2346. SHRIMATI ILA BHATTACHARYA: will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) how many Bengali titles have been translated into other Indian languages by the National Book Trust and Sahitya Akademi during the last three years; and

(b) if so, in which languages and who are the authors of the original titles?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE (SMT. SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) One Bengali title has been translated into other Indian languages by the National Book Trust and nine by Sahitya Akademi during the last three years.

(b) (i) A book containing twenty-one Bengali Short Stories compiled by Shri A. K. Mukherjee has been translated by N.B.T. into Hindi, Malayalam and Telugu.

(ii) Three titles in Hindi, one title in Punjabi and three titles in Urdu by Rabindranath Tagore; one title each in Gujarati, Maithili, Marathi by Sukumar Sen; one title in Malayalam by Tarashankar Bandyopadhyaya; one title in Malayalam by Bibhuti Bhushan Bandyopadhyaya; and one title in Gujarati by Gajendra Kumar Mitra have been translated by Sahitya Akademi.

Setting up of a Central University at Cachar

2347. SHRIMATI ILA BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the demand of the people of Cachar in Assam to set up a central university at Cachar; and

(b) if so, what action Government propose to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE (SMT. SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There is no proposal to establish a central university in Cachar. However, the Government of Assam has decided to establish a state university in the Barrak Valley in Assam.